The City of Hartford Advisory Commission on Food Policy & Hartford Hospital

Present:

# The 2004 Community Food Security Awards

March 31<sup>th</sup>, 2004 Function Room, Hartford City Hall

<u>Community Food Security</u> means strong, sustainable, local and regional food systems that ensure access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food for all people at all times.

## Winners of the 2004 Community Food Security Awards:

it is not just concerned with its own financial success, but also with the state of the communities in which it operates.

#### **Rosemary O'Neill**

Program coordinator, Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, UConn. From February of 1979 until summer of 2003, Rosemary worked as program coordinator of the EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program), educating homemakers and working with children in Hartford area schools, after-school and neighborhood programs. She was on the organizing committee that created the connection between WIC programs and farmer's markets, and has also worked with the various city community gardens, the Mobile Foodshare at Trust House and at the Hispanic Health Council's health fair. Her deep understanding of the concept of community food security and her tireless work to bring this understanding to others makes her an excellent choice for this year's CFS Award in the individual category.

#### **Connecticut Marketing Authority/Regional Market**

One of the Connecticut Regional Market's notable programs is a partnership with Foodshare through which surplus fruits and vegetables are donated to Foodshare for redistribution to Foodshare's partner agencies (food banks, food pantries, soup kitchens, etc.). Starting in 2001, the Market made on-site space available to Foodshare for the establishment of a produce recovery and re-packing facility. Since this program began, Foodshare has received more than 1,799,000 pounds of fresh produce, much of which would have formerly been wasted. The Market has also partnered with Foodshare to donate unusable and inedible produce to local farmers for use as compost. Both the produce recovery project and the composting project are evidence the Connecticut Marketing Authority/Regional Market's understanding of the links between food production, distribution and nutrition and of its dedication to food security for the communities of Hartford.

**Stop & Shop Supermarket,** New Park Avenue, Hartford Stop & Shop o perates the only full service super-store retail grocery outlet in the city of Hartford. It is located in a low-income neighborhood and is right on a busline, making it easily accessible for many Hartford residents, and provides 165 jobs to residents of Hartford and the surrounding communities. An example of a food industry company committed to fight hunger and food insecurity, Stop & Shop is the largest donor of food to Foodshare, greater Hartford's regional food bank, and contributes \$12 million annually in product, cash and services to hunger relief efforts in the Northeast.

Stop & Shop's willingness to involve itself in hunger issues proves that

#### **Program**

#### 5:00 – 5:30 Hors d'oeuvres

5:30-5:45 Congratulations from the City of Hartford Mayor, Eddie A. Perez

5:45-6:00 Welcome & Introductory Remarks from the City of Hartford Advisory Commission on Food Policy - Lola Elliott-Hugh, Commission Chair

> Community Food Security in Greater Hartford - Don Reynolds, Commissioner

#### 6:00 – 6:30Presentation of Awards

- ♦ **Rosemary O'Neill,** presented by Linda Drake, EFNEP Program, UCONN Cooperative Extension
- ◆ Connecticut Marketing Authority/Regional Market (accepted by Bruce Gresczyk, chairman of the Marketing Authority and Commissioner of the CT Department of Agriculture), presented by Gloria McAdam, president of Foodshare
- ◆ Stop & Shop Supermarket (accepted by Victoria Alicia Lopez, Corporate Affairs Specialist, Stop & Shop), presented by Gloria McAdam, president of Foodshare

# The Commission would also like to recognize this year's nominees:

Culinary Arts Program, Chrysalis Center Community Partners for Food Noemi Cruz, Hartford Hospital The Enfield Food Shelf

## 6:30 Closing Remarks - Jiff Martin, Commission staff

The City of Hartford Advisory Commission on Food Policy wishes to thank Hartford Hospital for making these awards possible through their co-sponsorship. We also wish to thank Hartford artist Dennis Peabody for designing and creating the awards.